detected output is obtained from the second detection unit when the operation unit is moved in a direction perpendicular to the rotational shafts.

Please rewrite Claim 5 as follows:

(Amended) 5. The character input apparatus according to claim 4, wherein a conversion means for converting input data of alphabetical character to kana characters is provided additionally.

Please rewrite Claim 6 as follows:

(Amended) 6. The character input apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, when the control unit selects the data and the selected data is displayed on a display unit, the control unit generates the display data so that not only the data selected based on the inclination direction of the operation unit but also one data positioned adjacent to the selected data is displayed simultaneously on the display unit.

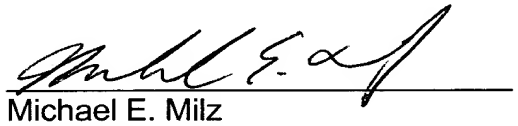
Please add new Claim 7 as follows:

(New) 7. The character input apparatus according to claim 4, wherein a second conversion means for converting the kana characters to kanji characters is provided additionally.

REMARKS

Applicants have rewritten portions of the specification and Claims 1, 2, 5 and 6. The changes from the previous version to the rewritten version are shown in attached Appendix A, with strikethrough for deleted matter and underlines for added matter.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael E. Milz
Registration No. 34,880
Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610
(312) 321-4200

APPENDIX A
Attorney Docket No. 9281-3969
Yasuji Hagiwara et al.
Character Input Apparatus

In the Specification

Please amend the paragraph on page 1, lines 12-22 as follows:

(Amended) A key board apparatus is used for character input in a personal computer. A key board apparatus has a plurality of key tops arranged according to the predetermined specification. In the case of the key board of this type, 26 alphabets (alphabetical characters), kana characters, numerals, and symbols are assigned to respective key tops. In the case of a key board apparatus used for a personal computer, usually many key tops are arranged, the input of an alphabet is carried out by selecting alphabets assigned to respective key tops successively.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 23 and ending on page 2, line 10 as follows:

(Amended) The portable phone is used as a means for communication with other persons, and communication is carried not only by means of voice but also by means of character. In the case of communication by means of character, characters are entered by operating desired keys of a potable phone. For example, "A, B, and C", "D, E, and F", ... "W, X, Y and Z" are assigned to number 2, number 3, ..., number 9 numeral keys respectively. In the case that "E" is to be entered, the number 3 numeral key is pushed twice, and in the case that "Z" is to be entered, the number 9 numeral key is pushed four times.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 13 and ending on page 13, line 5 as follows:

(Amended) Furthermore, on the character input apparatus 2, the data group (alphabet) 8 of the total of 26 characters comprising A, B, C, ..., X, Y, and Z are formed by printing in the order at the respective predetermined positions 7 on the entire periphery of the operation unit 3 of the box 1 on which the operation unit 3 is provided as shown in FIG. 4A. An angular region α of (~~26~~/360/26), which is a value obtained by equally dividing 360 degrees by 26, is allocated to each alphabet. When the operation body 3a is inclined within a certain angular region α, the same

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character is selected as the data. Not all the alphabets 8 may be formed, and some alphabetical characters may be selectively formed as required depending on the display area of the predetermined position 7. Otherwise, the character is formed not on the box 1 side but on the operation body 3a side.

In the Claims

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

(Amended) 1. A character input apparatus comprising, an operation unit, a support for supporting the operation unit so as to be inclinable, a first detection unit for generating a different signal corresponding to ~~the~~an inclination direction of the operation unit, a second detection unit for generating a signal based on a motion when the operation unit is moved in a direction different from the inclination direction, and a control unit for selecting any data from among N data groups based on detected output from the first detection unit when the operation unit is inclined and for finalizing data selected based on detected output from the second detection unit when the operation unit is operated in the direction different from the inclination direction.

Please amend Claim 2 as follows:

(Amended) 2. The character input apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the support is provided with two rotational shafts that are rotated when the operation unit is inclined and two rotation detection means for detecting ~~the~~a rotation magnitude of each rotation shaft, the two rotation detection means constitute the first detection unit, and the detected output is obtained from the second detection unit when the operation unit is moved in ~~the~~a direction perpendicular to the rotational shafts.

Please amend Claim 5 as follows:

(Amended) 5. The character input apparatus according to claim 4, wherein a conversion means for converting ~~the~~ input data of alphabetical character to kana characters ~~or further to kanji characters~~ is provided additionally.

Please amend Claim 6 as follows:

(Amended) 6. The character input apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, when the control unit selects the data and the selected data is displayed on ~~the~~a

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display unit, the control unit generates the display data so that not only the data selected based on the inclination direction of the operation unit but also one data ~~or a plurality of data~~ positioned ~~before and after~~ adjacent to the selected data is displayed simultaneously on the display unit.

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